

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please CANCEL claims 1 and 10 without prejudice to or disclaimer of their subject matter. Please AMEND claims 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, and 9, as follows.

Claim 1 (Cancelled).

2. (Currently Amended) An image heating apparatus comprising:  
according to claim 1,

an endless film including a metal layer;

means for increasing a temperature of said endless film;

a regulating member for preventing a lopsided movement of said endless film;

and

a lubricating part provided in a contact part between said endless film and said  
regulating member,

wherein an image on a recording material is heated by heat from said endless  
film, and

wherein said regulating member has a shape of a cap to cover an outer  
peripheral surface of an end of the film.

3. (Original) An image heating apparatus according to claim 2,  
wherein said lubricating part is present between the outer peripheral surface of

said endless film end and the regulating member, and between an edge of end of film and said regulating member.

4. (Currently Amended) An image heating apparatus according to claim 2 ~~1~~, wherein the lubricating part is grease.

5. (Currently Amended) An image heating apparatus according to claim 2 ~~1~~, wherein the lubricating part is a sliding layer of high sliding characteristics.

6. (Original) An image heating apparatus according to claim 5, wherein the sliding layer is an imide-base resin layer.

7. (Currently Amended) An image heating apparatus according to claim 2 ~~1~~, wherein said regulating member is fixed.

8. (Currently Amended) An image heating apparatus comprising  
~~according to claim 1,~~

an endless film including a metal layer;

means for increasing a temperature of said endless film;

a regulating member for preventing a lopsided movement of said endless film;

and

a lubricating part provided in a contact part between said endless film and said

regulating member.

wherein an image on a recording material is heated by heat from said endless  
film, and

wherein said regulating member has a guide part for guiding an end of the film  
to an inside of the ~~film~~ regulating member by a lopsided movement of said endless film.

9. (Currently Amended) An image heating apparatus according to claim 2  
†, wherein said means for increasing the temperature of the film is a heater equipped with a heat  
generating part on a substrate, to which power is supplied to generate heat.

Claim 10 (Cancelled).